

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORT, BG, US

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: LANGUAGE ON PUERTO RICO

REF: DACCA 3932

1. LANGUAGE CITED BY ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SECRETARY TO DCM (PARA 2, REFTEL) REFERRING TO PUERTO RICO AS "ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ENCLAVES OF COLONIALISM IN LATIN AMERICA" COMES FROM A RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO AT THE ALGIERS SUMMIT OF 1973 AND FROM THE DECLARATION AT 3RD MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AT HAVANA, IN MARCH 1975.

2. AT LIMA IN AUGUST 1975 THE POLITICAL DECLARATION OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES CONTAINED THIS SENTENCE : "84. THE CONFERENCE REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT OF PUERTO RICO'S RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE AND DEMANDS THAT COLONIAL SITUATIONS BE ELIMINATED, ESPECIALLY IN THE CASES OF BELIZE, THE MALVINAS ISLANDS, PUERTO RICO AND PANAMA."

3. THE NACC MEETING IN ALGIERS , JUNE 30-JULY 2 THIS YEAR "REAFFIRMS THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE
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OF PUERTO RICO TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE

IN ACCORDANCE WITH "UNGA RES. 1514 (XV) OF 1960, ETC.
NO MENTION OF COLONIALISM.

4. FINALLY, HERE IS THE SRI LANKA DRAFT POLITICAL DECLARATION
LANGUAGE ON PUERTO RICO AS WE HAVE IT:

"COLONIALISM AND OTHER FORMS OF FOREIGN DOMINATION
CONTINUE IN LATIN AMERICA, CONSTITUTING A THREAT TO PEACE
AND SECURITY IN THE REGION. THE CONFERENCE SUPPORTS THE
LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO
SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE AND REQUESTS THAT
PROMPT MEASURES BE TAKEN TOWARDS THAT END."

5. LATER THE DRAFT CALLS FOR DISMANTLING OF US BASES IN
CUBA, PANAMA AND PUERTO RICO "AND THE RESTORATION OF THE
TERRITORIES TO THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS."

6. FINALLY, THERE IS AN OMNIBUS DECOLONIZATION SECTION
WHICH "REAFFIRMS THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLES
OF THE FOLLOWING COLONIAL TERRITORIES TO SELF-DETERMINATION
AND INDEPENDENCE AND CALLS FOR THE SPEEDY GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO THEM: BRUNEI; THE BILBERT ISLANDS; BERMUDA;
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, CAYMAN ILANDS AND CAICO ISLANDDDS;
AMERICAN SAMOA, GUAM AND THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS: THE
SOLOMAN ISLANDS; BELIZE; THE NEW HEBRIDES, PITCAIRN
AND TUVALU; THE SO-CALLED FRENCH SOMALILAND (DJIBOUTI);
AND PUERTO RICO."

7. COMMENT: SHOULD THE OCCASION ARISE IN ANOTHER
CONVERSATION WITH THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, IT WOULD
BE FAIR TO STATE THAT SINCE THE ALGIERS SUMMIT IN 1973, THE
TREND HAS BEEN TOWARD MORE MODERATE CONFERENCE LANGUAGE
ON PUERTO RICO, A TREND OBVIOUSLY RESISTED AT EVERY STEP
BY THE CUBANS. THE FORMULATION OF "ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL
ENCLAVES OF COLONIALISM IN LATIN AMERICA" IS, SO FAR AS
WE ARE AWARE, A PURELY CUBAN ONE.
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